
Subject: SQL access without Dataminer

Posted by [Jonathan Greenberg](#) on Sat, 08 Feb 2003 20:04:01 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Does anyone know if IDL has any SQL access capability without purchasing Dataminer? Are there any freeware SQL interface libraries for IDL?

--j

--

Jonathan Greenberg

Graduate Group in Ecology, U.C. Davis

<http://www.cstars.ucdavis.edu/~jongreen>

<http://www.cstars.ucdavis.edu>

AIM: jgrn307 or jgrn3007

MSN: jgrn307@msn.com or jgrn3007@msn.com

Subject: Re: SQL access without Dataminer

Posted by [MKatz843](#) on Mon, 10 Feb 2003 17:55:27 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Jonathan Greenberg <greenberg@ucdavis.edu> wrote in message
news:<BA6AA308.13375%greenberg@ucdavis.edu>...

> Does anyone know if IDL has any SQL access capability without purchasing
> Dataminer? Are there any freeware SQL interface libraries for IDL?
>
> --j

I'm interested in this too. I have some IDL -> Database -> Web applications in mind, so I started to learn PHP and MySQL, which are both pretty easy to use (and free!) Plus, they have very nice (also free) web-based administration programs out there. The IDL DataMiner (~\$500 US) claims support for SQL and ODBC. Without too much investigation, it seems to me that the core SQL grammar and MySQL grammar are similar if not identical. I haven't tested the overlap of the database-connection methods between the two, but they must be somewhat similar.

In my opinion, it would be great if IDL DataMiner would support MySQL explicitly (how hard could it be for them to do this?). Failing that, it may be possible to develop some PHP code from the command line to take SQL/MySQL queries generated within IDL and return results somehow.

Any takers?

M. Katz

Some useful links:

<http://www.MySQL.com/>

<http://www.php.net/>

<http://www.phpmyadmin.net/>

And for Mac OS X users. . .

<http://www.entropy.ch/software/macosex/php/>

<http://aaronfaby.com/php4.php>

<http://aaronfaby.com/apache2.php>

Subject: Re: SQL access without Dataminer

Posted by [Randall Skelton](#) on Wed, 12 Feb 2003 00:44:59 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

I have written some very raw DLMs that emulate postgres' libpq functions. The library is in a bit of a state of flux as I have been slowly adding multi-threaded connection support, blobs, and vectorizing. It works under *nix.

There are very general problems involved when you start desiring cross-platform database access. Firstly, you need to be careful about binary conversions or simply stick to ascii returns. Secondly, while ODBC/JDBC are the obvious choices for communication, last time I checked there weren't any free cross-platform libraries. Both of the above libraries provide hooks for easy casting which is a real pain to sort out with the raw C libraries for postgres and mysql. That being said, I quite like the speed I can get out of my libpq wrappers when used in multi-threaded mode ;) The ODBC drivers for postgres cannot compare.

The short answer is that while \$500 US seems like a lot up front, anyone who thinks they can write a database interface for less (time=\$\$\$) is probably kidding themselves. It took me 2 weeks to get version 1 of my postgres DLM working and the interface is nowhere near as easy to use as the dataminer. I don't even want to begin adding up the hours of bug fixing, vectorizing, trapping that I've done since version 1.

>> Does anyone know if IDL has any SQL access capability without purchasing
>> Dataminer? Are there any freeware SQL interface libraries for IDL?

Yes. I can send you my postgres DLMs if you wish. They work for *nix and are sent as source for you to compile.

> I'm interested in this too. I have some IDL -> Database -> Web
> applications in mind, so I started to learn PHP and MySQL, which are
> both pretty easy to use (and free!) Plus, they have very nice (also
> free) web-based administration programs out there. The IDL DataMiner
> (~\$500 US) claims support for SQL and ODBC. Without too much

- > investigation, it seems to me that the core SQL grammar and MySQL
- > grammar are similar if not identical.

They are subtly different. The debate regarding the level of SQL compliance is too detailed to get into here. Each of the big 3 (postgresql, mysql, oracle) has their own syntax quirks and their own low-level programming APIs. This is why ODBC and JDBC are popular.

- > I haven't tested the overlap of
- > the database-connection methods between the two, but they must be
- > somewhat similar.

Their APIs are all similar as they each provide database access but they are completely independent C/C++ libraries.

- > In my opinion, it would be great if IDL DataMiner would support MySQL
- > explicitly (how hard could it be for them to do this?). Failing that,
- > it may be possible to develop some PHP code from the command line to
- > take SQL/MySQL queries generated within IDL and return results
- > somehow.

ODBC/JDBC are designed as abstractions libraries and provide a standard interface. Developers for each database simply emulate the ODBC functionality using a subset of their own raw libraries. You could very well write DLM wrappers around the mysql C libraries to get the same functionality that I have with postgres.

Subject: Re: SQL access without Dataminer
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Thu, 13 Feb 2003 10:42:18 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Jonathan Greenberg wrote:

- > Does anyone know if IDL has any SQL access capability without purchasing
- > Dataminer? Are there any freeware SQL interface libraries for IDL?
- >
- > --j
- >

In prinziple I am using at the moment something like this.

```
line=""
READ,line
txt=['use DATABASE ;',line]
  del_file,'data.sql'
  put_file,'data.sql',txt
```

SPAWN,'mysql -h 127.0.0.1 -u data -P3306 < data.sql',result

This is more a question to Randall.

Is it possible to write a dlm using mysql as it is now with parameter submission I did by spawn in this example?

Another nice command is

mysqlshow --host=127.0.0.1 --user=data

SEE ALSO

isamchk (1), isamlog (1), mysqlaccess (1), mysqladmin (1),
mysqlbug (1), mysqld (1), mysqldump (1), mysqlshow (1),
mysql2mysql (1), perror (1), replace (1), safe_mysqld (1),
which1 (1), zap (1),

regards

Reimaar

--

Reimar Bauer

Institut fuer Stratosphaerische Chemie (ICG-I)
Forschungszentrum Juelich
email: R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de

a IDL library at ForschungsZentrum Juelich
http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html

=====